

**PREVENTIVE TREATMENT METHOD FOR  
A MULTILAYER SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER**

**ABSTRACT**

A preventive treatment method for a multilayer semiconductor wafer is described. The semiconductor wafer includes a supporting substrate, at least one intermediate layer and a surface layer in which an intermediate layer has an exposed lateral edge and the wafer is to be subjected to a subsequent treatment. The method includes encapsulating the exposed lateral edge of the intermediate layer with a portion of the surface layer to prevent attack on the peripheral edge during the subsequent treatment.

10